

# NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION



## Information Letter



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### CONTENTS

	Page		Page
Rate case hearing postponed .....	2045	Forecast of cucumbers for pickles ..	2049
Italian tomato crop lower .....	2045	Condition of lima beans and beets...	2049
Bean, corn, and tomato crop forecasts	2045	Increase in kraut cabbage forecast..	2050
Separate exports statistics on canned		Weather conditions .....	2051
grapefruit planned .....	2048	Business conditions .....	2052
Drouth reduces bean crop prospects.	2048	Truck crop markets .....	2052

### Rate Case Hearing Postponed

The hearing on the Consolidated Southwestern Rate Case, set for Washington, D. C., on September 22, has been postponed until November 11. This is the case involving the classification of canned foods according to value for rate-making purposes.

### Italian Tomato Crop Lower

According to a cable from the American commercial attache at Rome, tomatoes are not so plentiful as last year in Italy and canning is commencing with great uncertainty as to trend on American markets. British buyers evidently assume that American orders are lacking, and are offering impossible prices.

### Bean, Corn, and Tomato Crop Forecasts

Forecasts of the production of snap beans, sweet corn and tomatoes for manufacture, based upon the condition of these crops on September 1, have been issued by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

### SNAP BEANS

The forecast of production of snap beans for canning or manufacture, based upon condition on September 1, is 78,700 tons, compared with a production of 90,430 tons last year. This forecast is only 1,150 tons below the forecast of 79,850 tons on August 15. The slight decrease is due chiefly to lower yields per

acre in Michigan and Wisconsin. Other States show little or no change from the August 15 forecast of probable production.

The September 1 forecast of production is 13 per cent below production last year, but is considerably larger than the five-year average production for the period 1924-1928, due to a rapid expansion of acreage during the past two seasons. The indicated yield per acre in 1930 is one-fourth below the average yield in 1929 and is one-third smaller than the five-year average yield during 1924-1928. It is the lowest yield per acre on record since official estimates were started in 1918.

State	Acreage		Production	
	1929 Acres	1930 Acres	1929 Tons	1930 Tons
Maine .....	1,800	1,420	2,730	2,900
New York .....	9,800	11,270	14,700	13,320
Pennsylvania .....	1,720	3,350	3,810	2,680
Indiana .....	3,500	3,710	3,500	2,230
Michigan .....	3,800	3,990	4,770	4,190
Wisconsin .....	7,400	8,580	9,620	8,580
Delaware .....	2,040	2,550	2,630	1,790
Maryland .....	8,400	9,740	14,280	6,820
South Carolina .....	870	830	1,360	1,160
Tennessee .....	2,600	2,460	2,400	2,400
Mississippi .....	1,800	2,640	1,800	2,640
Arkansas .....	2,540	2,510	2,400	1,200
Louisiana .....	2,280	3,290	2,280	3,290
Colorado .....	2,400	2,090	6,500	5,850
Utah .....	1,280	1,320	2,500	3,950
Washington .....	820	940	2,400	3,100
Oregon .....	930	890	2,790	2,640
California .....	750	810	3,000	3,320
Other states <sup>a</sup> .....	5,300	6,630	6,360	5,300
U. S. total .....	61,090	71,130	99,430	78,700

<sup>a</sup> "Other states" include Alabama, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Wyoming.

### TOMATOES

Based upon condition of the crop on September 1, the forecast of production of tomatoes for canning or manufacture, is 1,401,180 tons, compared with the forecast of 1,366,330 tons on August 15 and with a production of 1,426,170 tons last year. Local showers and rains through sections of Indiana, Ohio, New Jersey and Arkansas have improved prospects somewhat since the middle of August. Condition of the crop in California remains favorable, with prospective production considerably larger than that of 1929. Some further deterioration, however, has taken place in New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois, where lack of moisture and dry rot have reduced yields. In other drouth stricken areas, including Maryland, Delaware, Kentucky, Tennessee and Missouri, further deterioration has been prevented by cooler temperatures and scattered showers.

The September 1 forecast of production is 2 per cent below production in 1929, but is one-sixth larger than the five-year average production during the period 1924-1928. The estimate of planted acreage in 1930 exceeds the acreage grown in 1929 by 22 per cent, and is 27 per cent larger than the average acreage for the five-year period, 1924-1928. The indicated yield per acre is nearly 20 per cent less than the yield in 1929, and is about 10 per cent below the five-year average yield during the period 1924-1928.

State	Acreage		Condition		Production	
	1929	1930	Sept. 1,	Sept. 1,	1929	1930
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
New York .....	13,600	15,500	70	53	85,680	68,750
New Jersey .....	33,000	40,000	78	78	214,500	200,000
Pennsylvania .....	3,420	4,280	75	40	13,680	8,900
Ohio .....	10,950	13,690	80	74	52,560	65,716
Indiana .....	59,840	81,380	71	69	231,330	301,110
Illinois .....	5,440	6,310	72	50	26,870	17,040
Michigan .....	1,990	2,410	70	51	8,900	8,920
Iowa .....	4,570	6,400	79	71	25,140	34,320
Missouri .....	20,540	28,900	59	46	60,730	52,020
Delaware .....	18,500	14,180	85	57	86,850	46,790
Maryland .....	27,500	28,880	80	52	140,250	77,970
Virginia .....	6,840	7,390	68	32	25,000	13,300
Kentucky .....	6,920	8,930	73	42	28,000	17,860
Tennessee .....	9,200	11,590	66	43	23,000	19,700
Arkansas .....	22,600	29,380	35	46	61,020	61,700
Colorado .....	1,920	3,210	70	84	16,700	16,500
Utah .....	6,180	7,730	78	50	56,860	39,500
California .....	41,680	44,210	85	90	238,420	331,580
Other states <sup>a</sup> .....	4,480	6,050	66	54	15,230	15,130
Total or average..	294,470	399,410	73.2	62.9	1,426,170	1,401,180

<sup>a</sup> "Other states" include Alabama, Connecticut, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin.

### SWEET CORN

The September 1 forecast of production of sweet corn for canning or manufacture, based upon condition of the crop on that date, is 576,700 tons compared with the forecast of 589,500 tons on August 15, and with a production of 703,600 tons last year. Further reductions in probable yields in Iowa, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware have occurred since the report of August 15. These reductions, however, have been offset to some extent by the higher yields expected in Minnesota, Indiana and the New England States.

The September 1 forecast of production is 18 per cent less than production in 1929, and is 14 per cent below the five-year average production for the period 1924-1928. The estimate of planted acreage in 1930 is 11 per cent larger than the acreage grown in 1929 and more than one-fourth larger than the average acreage during the five-year period, 1924-1928. The indicated

yield is the lowest on record since official estimates were started in 1918. Though no information is yet available on the number of cases packed per ton this year, it will probably run below average in the drouth stricken areas.

State	Acreage		Condition		Production	
	1929	1930	Sept. 1, 1929	Sept. 1, 1930	1929	1930
	Acres	Acres	Per cent	Per cent	Tons	Tons
Maine .....	14,850	a 13,440	74	94	40,000	47,040
New Hampshire .....	1,330	1,110	73	..	3,300	3,000
Vermont .....	2,370	a 2,200	73	85	6,200	6,100
New York .....	24,600	27,060	73	42	36,000	29,770
Pennsylvania .....	6,000	6,000	30	15	6,000	2,400
Ohio .....	31,000	34,410	66	34	62,000	24,090
Indiana .....	38,500	44,280	64	39	50,000	61,990
Illinois .....	84,000	72,320	76	33	184,400	108,480
Michigan .....	6,400	10,360	61	23	6,100	6,180
Wisconsin .....	11,000	13,340	72	37	24,400	20,010
Minnesota .....	43,900	52,680	67	76	103,400	121,160
Iowa .....	32,000	34,600	82	37	130,000	98,280
Nebraska .....	3,740	7,400	80	32	10,900	11,100
Delaware .....	3,800	3,700	60	40	5,800	2,700
Maryland .....	44,000	46,200	32	13	61,000	18,500
Tennessee .....	3,400	3,480	77	70	6,800	6,100
Other states b .....	2,230	4,160	78	77	7,500	8,740
Total or average..	356,830	398,000	69.2	50.3	703,600	376,790

a Revised.

b "Other states" include Colorado, Idaho, Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

### Separate Exports Statistics on Canned Grapefruit Planned

Up until the present time canned grapefruit has been included in the export statistics under the classification "Other canned fruit." In view of the increasing exports of this product and the value to the trade of export figures, the Department of Commerce has decided to show canned grapefruit separately in the export statistics beginning with January, 1931.

### Drouth Reduces Bean Crop Prospects

As a result of the August drouth prospects for field beans in Michigan and New York have been reduced about one-third or nearly three million bushels, resulting in a forecast for the country as a whole of 19,458,000 bushels, or 1 per cent less than production last year. The average yield per acre is expected to be lower than in any year since 1917, according to the September crop report of the Department of Agriculture, but, as a record acreage was planted, the crop is still expected to be larger than in any season except 1925 and 1929. The crop is maturing earlier than usual, especially in the eastern pea bean states, and harvesting operations have made exceptional progress. The portion of the crop threshed to date is showing a low pickage and low moisture content.

The decline during the past month was mainly confined to the eastern pea bean states, where extreme heat from July 15 to August 10, accompanied by severe drouth, blasted much of the bloom and caused poor setting and filling of pods. Some fields are so poor that the beans will not be harvested. The total bean production of Michigan and New York, which raise most of the pea beans, is expected to be about 6,100,000 bushels or about 827,000 less than in 1929, but this will be partly offset by increased production of small whites in California and elsewhere. The yield of red kidney beans in the eastern states is slightly better than that of white varieties.

The production outlook for great northern beans has improved slightly and is now close to last year's production. Prospects for pintos have increased in Colorado but declined in New Mexico, and are now about 200,000 bushels short of last year's big crop of pintos.

California beans show no change from the prospect of about 6,000,000 bushels reported last month, which exceeds last year's California crop by about 1,000,000 bushels.

#### Forecast of Cucumbers for Pickles

The production of cucumbers for pickles, based on condition on September 1, is estimated by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates at 4,942,000 bushels, as compared with 3,265,000 in 1929. The following table furnishes comparisons of the acreage, condition and production in 1929 and 1930:

State	Acreage		Condition		Production	
	1929	1930	Sept. 1,	Sept. 1,	1929	1930
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Bushels</i>	<i>Bushels</i>
Massachusetts .....	680	680	..	85	83,000	82,000
New York .....	820	800	36	54	28,000	36,000
Ohio .....	1,730	3,110	55	79	78,000	140,000
Indiana .....	9,000	12,960	49	75	315,000	314,000
Illinois .....	1,350	1,400	50	50	44,000	46,000
Michigan .....	21,600	29,820	51	68	680,000	1,103,000
Wisconsin .....	11,310	16,960	46	79	475,000	848,000
Minnesota .....	3,500	4,530	46	62	84,000	155,000
Iowa .....	1,750	3,150	58	55	84,000	94,000
Missouri .....	1,260	1,260	50	50	28,000	26,000
Louisiana .....	980	1,760	..	50	108,000	178,000
Colorado .....	2,000	3,100	60	87	236,000	331,000
Washington .....	310	610	60	75	77,000	127,000
California .....	2,710	3,500	83	87	633,000	738,000
Other states .....	6,300	8,300	68	52	378,000	510,000
Total or average	64,790	92,290	53.5	66.9	3,265,000	4,942,000

a "Other states" include Connecticut, Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Wyoming.

#### Condition of Lima Beans and Beets

Continuation of the hot, dry weather during August caused a decline in condition of 15.5 points in lima beans since August

1. Condition of the crop on September 1 was 52.8 per cent of normal compared with 68.3 per cent on August 1. The crop has received only light, scattered showers throughout the producing areas of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Virginia and Michigan.

Condition of beets on September 1 is estimated as 71 per cent of normal compared with 81.1 per cent on August 1. Damage from drouth and heat is reported from nearly all eastern areas. Recent rains are expected to improve the later plantings somewhat.

The following table, from the report of the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates, shows the condition of lima beans and beets on August 1 and September 1:

State	Lima beans		Beets	
	Aug. 1, 1930	Sept. 1, 1930	Aug. 1, 1930	Sept. 1, 1930
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
Colorado .....	..	..	90	90
Delaware .....	78	58	..	..
Indiana .....	..	..	75	60
Maryland .....	54	38	..	..
Michigan .....	68	60	70	65
Minnesota .....	85	74	..	..
New Jersey .....	81	65	85	88
New York .....	..	..	85	87
Ohio .....	80	29	40	35
Oregon .....	..	..	89	72
Utah .....	86	70	90	85
Virginia .....	55	40	..	..
Washington .....	..	..	92	90
Wisconsin .....	..	..	79	66
Other states <sup>a</sup> .....	75	55	84	82
U. S. average .....	68.3	52.8	81.1	71.0

<sup>a</sup> "Other states" for Lima beans include Colorado, Indiana, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Wisconsin; for beets, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia.

### Increase in Kraut Cabbage Forecast

The September 1 forecast of production of cabbage for kraut, based upon condition of the crop on that date, is 144,900 tons compared with a production of 140,300 tons in 1929, or an increase of 3 per cent over that of last year. On an acreage about one-fifth larger than that grown in 1929, the indicated yield per acre is only 7.1 tons compared with 8.3 tons last year and with a five-year average yield of 10.4 tons for the period 1924-1928. With the exception of 1919, the indicated yield is the lowest on record dating back to 1918.

The condition of the crop declined 20 points during the month of August, and on September 1 was placed at 59.8 per cent of normal compared with 74 per cent a year ago and with a 10-year average of 76.9 per cent on September 1. Deterioration of the crop since August 1 has been caused by the exten-



sion of the drouth area northward into New York, Michigan and parts of Wisconsin. As a result of the heat and drouth, cabbage is heading small.

State	Acreage		Condition Sept. 1		Production	
	1929	1930	1929	1930	1929	1930
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
New York .....	4,120	3,130	75	65	30,100	40,300
Ohio .....	2,760	2,860	78	65	23,200	18,000
Indiana .....	1,080	1,404	70	65	8,300	7,500
Illinois .....	870	804	65	60	5,000	5,300
Michigan .....	1,700	2,125	70	51	10,700	17,300
Wisconsin .....	3,020	4,228	75	65	24,200	32,100
Minnesota .....	500	550	75	60	4,000	4,500
Colorado .....	500	325	77	75	5,000	6,000
Washington .....	320	320	..	75	2,000	2,000
Other states .....	2,500	2,330	72	49	17,000	13,700
Total .....	16,910	20,498	74.0	55.8	140,500	144,000

### Weather Conditions

The week ended September 9, according to the U. S. Weather Bureau, was generally warm over the southern half of the country, the maximum temperature reaching 100 degrees locally in southwestern Kansas, north-central Texas, and western Arkansas. Over the northern States about normal warmth prevailed, some sections reporting maximum temperatures for the week in the 70's. Rainfall was rather irregularly distributed, but was much more generous and widespread than in recent weeks.

Good rains were general over practically all of Kansas and most parts of Nebraska and South Dakota. Missouri had the most favorable weather in many weeks. There were substantial to heavy rains over much the greater portion of the State.

Good rains occurred also in much of southern Illinois. Only a few areas in this State are not now fairly well or well provided with moisture, and the drought is broken in the southwest. Local showers were rather general also over Indiana, but Ohio has been only partly relieved. West-central Wisconsin and southern Minnesota had very beneficial rains. The drought has been largely relieved also in the south Atlantic Coast area from North Carolina to Georgia and Florida, while showers were helpful in the extreme lower Mississippi Valley.

In the severely droughty sections, much of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, parts of Tennessee, Michigan, and most of Iowa were still largely unrelieved at the close of the week and rainfall was badly needed in nearly all sections. About one-third of Texas had effective showers, and rain was fairly general in Oklahoma at the close of the week, but more is generally needed in these States. North Dakota

also needs more rain, though scattered amounts were helpful, while the last part of the week brought rather good showers to much of Montana.

### Business Conditions

Business activity during the week ended September 6, 1930, as measured by bank debits outside New York City, registered a slight increase over the preceding week but declined from the corresponding period of a year ago.

Bank loans and discounts showed but slight change from the level of the previous week but were lower than during the week ended September 7, 1929.

Interest rates for call money recorded an increase over the rates of a week ago, while time money rates remained unchanged. Both rates were considerably lower than last year. Business failures during the past week were less numerous than the week ended August 30.

Car loadings for the week ended August 30 were heavier than for the preceding week but still considerably below the corresponding week of the two preceding years.

### CAR LOADINGS

	Total	Miscellaneous	Merchandise L. C. L.	Other
Week ended August 30 .....	984,504	385,041	239,175	260,288
Preceding week .....	940,519	367,279	236,123	236,947
Corresponding week, 1929 .....	1,162,100	468,414	266,745	426,941
Corresponding week, 1928 .....	1,116,711	441,836	163,136	488,419

### Truck Crop Markets

Shipments of apples and peaches increased sharply during the week ended September 6, according to the U. S. Market News Service, but the peaches were nearly all California fruit and many were going to canneries.

Total shipments of 32 fruits and vegetables increased to 22,675 cars and were heavier than a year ago.

### CARLOT SHIPMENTS

Commodity	Aug. 31- Sept. 6 1930	Aug. 24-30 1930	Sept. 1-7 1929	Total this season to Sept. 6	Total last season to Sept. 7	Total last season
Apples, total .....	1,393	788	1,420	7,674	8,137	102,881
Eastern states .....	720	497	1,433	4,979	6,295	51,188
Western states .....	575	289	397	3,154	1,862	31,578
Caldware .....	449	447	339	18,478	25,198	44,154
Carrots .....	88	65	54	8,791	9,171	12,141
Cauliflower .....	236	234	189	668	553	8,540
Cucumbers .....	180	150	142	6,738	6,878	7,469
Green peas:						
Domestic .....	108	172	64	6,181	4,873	5,197
Imports .....	11	3	0	14	3	11
Mixed deciduous fruit..	479	515	420	4,417	8,807	5,192
Mixed vegetables .....	532	526	539	23,300	23,196	32,450
Peaches .....	4,347	3,910	2,247	34,333	29,168	85,481
Pears .....	2,347	2,120	1,540	13,185	16,632	21,146
Plums and prunes .....	528	723	316	6,842	2,497	8,640
String beans .....	24	22	23	8,882	7,499	8,641
Tomatoes .....	638	471	803	24,508	25,051	32,208